

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): A sputtering target comprising:
a material containing silicon carbide and silicon
wherein a volume ratio of the silicon carbide ranges from about 50% to about 70% when
a volume ratio of silicon carbide equals the entire volume of silicon carbide/(the entire volume of
silicon carbide + the entire volume of silicon) × 100.
2. (original): The sputtering target as claimed in claim 1 wherein the volume ratio of
the silicon carbide is about 55% to about 65%.
3. (currently amended): The sputtering target as claimed in ~~claim 1 or 2~~claim 1,
wherein the material containing silicon carbide and silicon is prepared by a reaction sintering
method.
4. (currently amended): The sputtering target as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1, 2~~
~~and 3~~claim 1, wherein a weight ratio of impurities contained in the silicon is about 0.01% or less.
5. (currently amended): The sputtering target as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~
claim 1, wherein a volume resistivity of a covering layer formed on a glass plate is about
 $3.0 \times 10^3 (\Omega \cdot \text{cm})$ or less.

6. (currently amended): The sputtering target as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~
claim 1, wherein the silicon carbide is a powder comprising, a mixture of a silicon carbide powder having a most frequent grains of about 1.7 to about 2.7 μm and a silicon carbide powder having most frequent grains of about 10.5 to about 21.5 μm is used.

7. (currently amended): A method for manufacturing a sputtering target comprising:
(1) ~~dissolving or dispersing~~ a silicon carbide powder and a carbon source into a solvent to provide a mixed powder in a slurry form,
(2) pouring the resulting mixed powder into a mold and drying the same to obtain a green material,
(3) calcinating the resulting green material at about 1200 to about 1800°C under a vacuum or inert gas atmosphere to obtain a calcined material, and
(4) impregnating the resulting calcined material with molten metallic silicon by capillary action to react free carbon in the calcined material with the silicon aspirated into the calcined material due to the capillary action phenomenon thereby obtaining a silicon carbide material.

8. (new): The sputtering target as claimed in claim 1, wherein the refractive indexes of covering layers formed on glass plates at the measured optical wavelength of 633 nm are 4.16 or less.